aided projects as prescribed by the Department of Economic Affairs in the Ministry of Finance. The question of directly posing such projects by this Ministry for assistance of UNDP does not arise since such projects are processed by the Department of Economic Affairs.

Review of Foreign-Aided Programmes

3233. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to conduct a review of all foreign aid and assistance programmes in the Rural Development Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that most of these programme are not beneficial to the common man; and

(d) the steps proposed to become self-reliant and implement programmes which are financed indigenously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) to (d) Foreign assistance is received from UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) to the tune of 1/3rd share of revolving fund of Rs. 15,000/— for each women group under DWCRA (Development of Women & Children in Rural Areas) which is very nominal as compared to the total Budget outlay of the Ministry. Besides this, some assistance is received from WHO (World Health Organisation) & UNICEF for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programmes. A review of these projects is made from time to time during discussions with the concerned organisations and annual foreign aid talks between Ministry of Finance and concerned Funding Agency. These projects are for direct benefits to the common man.

Standing Committee on Rural and Urban Development

3234. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Rural and Urban Development has expressed displeasure over the underutilisation of funds allocated in the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna;

(b) whether this scheme was launched to generate gainful employment for the rural masses;

(c) whether the committee has pointed out that during 1994-95, the Ministry had targeted creation of 10,804 lakh mandays in 1994-95 and an amount of Rs. 3,306.01 crore was allocated for this purpose;

(d) whether according to the Committee, Government could only provide 4,597.73 lakh man-days up to December, 1993;

(e) whether this was less than 50 per cent of the target; and

(f) what were the main reasons submitted by the Ministry for the poor performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The Standing Committee on Urban & Rural Development in its report has pointed out that during 1993-94, a target of generating 1080.499 lakh mandays was fixed and an amount of Rs. 3306.01 crores allocated for this purpose and noted that the performance in this regard has not been found satisfactory as the achievement upto December, 1993 was only 4597.73 lakh mandays which is 42.5% of the target fixed.

(f) JRY is a wage employment programme and the performance under the scheme depends upon the seasonal variations during the year. Works under JRY cannot be taken up during rainy season and the best months for taking up wage employment works are usually from December to May.

In addition, though it was decided to intensify JRY in 120 backward districts during 1993-94, it could not be started in time in some of the States namely Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan in view of the elections to the State Assemblies concerned.

However, as per the reports received from the States/UTs. for the year ending March, 1994, as against the total JRY allocation of Rs. 4132.50 crores (including State share)

during 1993-94, Rs. 3863.13 crores have been utilised which works out to 93.42% of the allocation. Similarly, against the revised target of 10383.26 lakh mandays, 10156.82 lakh mandays have been generated during 1993-94 which works out to 97.82%.

Funds for Implementation of Rural Development Programmes

3235. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of funds for implementation of more programmes to reduce poverty in rural areas;

(b) if not, what are the reasons for going to various foreign agencies for petty funds and facilities;

(c) what action Government are taking against personnel who have initiated such schemes to seek foreign assistance for critical programmes;

(d) whether Government will consider imposing a ban on Ministry officials and officials of bodies from seeking jobs with foreign agencies to implement and finance programmes dealing with rural development; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the image of the country is being reduced by requesting foreign agencies to fund poverty relief programmes?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) Rural Development has been one of the most important programmes of the Central Govt. In the 8th Five Year Plan, a massive central outlay of Rs. 30,000 crores has been provided for rural development as against Rs. 10,955 crores expenditure during the 7th Plan. The central outlay in the current year is Rs. 7,010 crores. Besides, the State Govts. also provide sufficient funds for rural development in their own budget. Therefore all efforts are being made to reduce poverty in the rural areas through implementation of several poverty alleviation and other rural development programmes.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

Foreign Assistance Programmes under Consideration

3236. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of foreign assistance programmes presently under consideration;

(b) whether it is a fact that direct discussions are being held by autonomous bodies like the National Institute for Rural Development with UNDP for aid and financial assistance;

(c) If not, which organisation is responsible for conducting negotiations with UNDP, UNIDO and other such international organisations;

(d) whether prior approval is required to conduct such negotiations;

(e) if so, whether prior approval was obtained in such negotiations;

(f) whether State Governments have been informed of the possible UNDP aid and the programmes for which it will be earmarked; and

(g) if so, the reaction of State Governments to the new UNDP programme?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) to (g) A project proposal for capacity building for local governments and decentralised administration in support of sustainable development has been received from UNDP, New Delhi. This is under preliminary stage of examination. A decision will be taken on the proposal in accordance with the procedures and guidelines for externally aided projects as prescribed by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance. The Question of directly posing such projects by this Ministry for assistance of UNDP does not arise since such projects are processed by the Department of Economic Affairs.

National Institute of Rural Development

3237. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the role of National Institute of Rural Development in making Panchayati Raj successful;